(a) whether Government are aware of the reports appeared in various electronic and other media on worms in the chocolates packets of Cadbury sold in various parts of the country *viz.* Mumbai, Thiruvananthapuram etc. during 2003;

(b) if so, the action taken, if any;

(c) whether there are any proposals for preventing such incidents in future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) The Government is aware of reports in various electronic and other media on worms in chocolates in certain parts of the country. Government of Maharashtra has informed that Chocolates and raw materials worth Rs. 3,18,65,257/- has been seized from retailers, wholesalers and manufacturers. The manufacturing units of Cadbury India Ltd., at Thane and Induri-Talegaon, Dabhade (Pune) have been inspected and showcause notices issued as to why licences should not be suspended.

All Food (Health) Authorities of all States/UT Governments have been requested to keep vigil on the quality of chocolates sold in their respective States and to draw large number of samples of chocolates from all sources including manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers to check the quality of these products.

Disease Surveillance System

531. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the public health authorities failed to predict, prevent the recent outbreaks of diseases in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is no disease surveillance system in the country to provide early warning signals of outbreaks of diseases; and

(d) whether the lack of Epidemiological Intelligence with Government is responsible for the hundreds of deaths in the under-privileged sections of the society?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (d) The National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) carries out the investigations of outbreaks on the request of the State Government and suggest suitable control measures. NICD is also involved in carrying out training of district level health personnel in survillance and control of epidemic prone diseases including detection of early warning signals of outbreaks. During the year 2003, the teams from NICD assisted the State Health Authorities of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal in investigating the outbreaks. For surveillance of disease, the Government of India initiated National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases (NSPCD) in the year 1997 which at present is being implemented in 101 districts of the country. A state based decentralized Integrated Diseases Surveillance Programme (IDSP) is on the anvil to cover all the districts during the 10th plan period.

Cases of Spurious Drugs

532. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of adulterated/spurious/fake medicines registered in the country during the current years;

(b) the action taken against the manufacturers of these drugs; and

(c) the steps taken to contain manufacturing of such drugs and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) As per the feedback available from the Drugs Controllers of States/UTs 129 samples of adulterated/ spurious durgs were detected by them during the period 1-4-2002 to 31-3-2003.

(b) Under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and rules thereunder, the responsibility for regulating manufacture and sale of drugs including taking administrative and legal action against the manufacturers rests with the